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conventicles in Nansemond County. It is ordered by this Court that they be proceeded against According to y^e laws of England and this country. Coll Bridger is Desired strictly to com'd the Justices of Nansemond Lower Norfolke & y^e Isle of Wight counties to make strict enquiry of y^e same, and if any persons shall be found to meete as aforesaid that y^{en} they be proceeded against as aforesaid.

JAMES II.'S DECLARATION OF INDULGENCE PROCLAIMED IN VIRGINIA.

At a Councill held att James Citty, October y^e 21st, 1687.
Present—

His Excellency,	Coll ^o . Richard Lee,
Nathaniel Bacon, Esq ^r .,	Coll ^o . John Lear,
Coll ^o . William Cole,	Coll. Christopher Wormely,
Ralph Wormely, Es ^q .,	Coll ^o . Isaack Allerton.

His Excellency was this day in Councill pleased to Acquaint the Councill That hee had received his Maj^{ties}. most Gracious Declaration for Liberty of Conscience, which he is pleased to order to bee published in James Citty on Tuesday next with the beate of Drum and the firing of y^e Great Gunns, and with all the Joyfulness that this Collony is capable to Express, and that it bee entered in the Councill Booke and published in every County in the Collony att their next Courts, and Recorded among the Records of every County.

Vera copia, Test:

W. EDWARDS, Cl. Con.

ALEXANDER FAMILY IN ENGLAND.

(Communicated by JUDGE B. R. WELLFORD, JR.)

John Alexander, the Stirps of the Virginia race, died there in 1677. The family traditions identify him with the fourth son of William Alexander, the poet, and first Earl Sterling named in the following extract from a very rare book entitled, "The Peerage of Scotland, A Genealogical and Historical Account of all the Peers of that Ancient Kingdom, Their Descents,

Collateral Branches, Births, Marriages and Issue, Together with A Like Account of all the Attainted Peers & a Complete Alphabetical List of Those Nobles of Scotland Whose Titles are Extinct, Collected from Parliamentary Rolls, Records, Family Documents & the Personal Information of Many Noble Peers. Also The Paternal Coats of Arms, Crests, Supporters & Mottoes Most Elegantly Engraved. London. Printed for J. Almon, opposite Burlington House, in Piccadilly; T. Cadell, in the Strand; R. Baldwin, S. Crowder, Robinson & Roberts, S. Bladon & Johnson & Davenport in Pater-Noster Row. MDCCLXVII. 1767."

P. 133.

ALEXANDER, EARL OF STIRLING.

This family, according to antiquaries, was a branch of that of Macdonald; for Alexander Macdonald, a younger son of the Lord of the Isles, obtaining from the family of Argyll the lands of Menstrie, in the County of Clackmanan, where he fixed his residence, his descendants thereafter took the surname of Alexander. In the reign of James V., Andrew Alexander, of Menstrie, marrying Catharine, a daughter of the family of Graham, by her had Alexander, his heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Douglas, of Lochleven; and was father of Andrew, who was father of another Alexander, whose son, Sir William, travelled abroad as tutor to the Earl of Argyll, and after his return, betaking himself to the court of King James VI., his majesty was pleased to prefer him to be master of the requests, and honored him with knighthood in 1604; after which, having by his own expense and management begun to settle the colony of Nova Scotia, in America, the king, by his royal charter, dated September 21, 1621, made him a grant thereof.

In 1625, the first of Charles I., he was made Chief Governor of Nova Scotia, where his majesty, to encourage the Scots gentry to settle, instituted an order of baronets, with a large tract of land to each, for the advancement of that colony; gave Sir William the privilege of coining copper money, and created him a Viscount and Earl in 1633.

He was also by that king made Secretary of State, in which office he continued till his death, being fifteen years; and his lordship marrying Janet, daughter and heir of Sir William Erskine, Knt., a cousin german of the Earl of Mar, by her had seven sons: *William*; *Sir Anthony*, who died without issue;

Henry, of whom hereafter; *John*,* Charles, Ladowie and James and two daughters, Lady Jane, married to Hugh Viscount Montgomery, whose son Hugh was created Earl of Mount Alexander, in Ireland, which title he assumed in honor of his mother's surname; and Lady Mary, married to Sir William Murray, of Clermont, Bart., of whom is descended Robert Murray, Esq., receiver general of the customs in Scotland. The eldest son, William, Viscount Canada, being his majesty's resident in Nova Scotia, died there in his father's life-time. He married Lady Margaret, daughter of William, first Marquess of Douglas, and had a son, William, and three daughters: Catharine, married to Waller Lord Torpichen; Margaret, to Sir Robert Sinclair, of Longfirmachus; and Lucy, to Edward Harrington, Esq., page of honor to the Prince of Orange, in 1630.

William, their brother, succeeded his grandfather, and was second earl, and dying without issue, his estate and honor descended to his uncle Henry.

Which Henry Alexander, third Earl, who married a daughter of Sir Peter Vanlore, alderman of London, had a son Henry, fourth Earl, who married — Lee, by whom he had issue, four sons and three daughters, viz., Henry, William, Robert, and Peter, who all died without issue; Lady Mary, wife of — Phillips Lee, of Binfield, in Berkshire, Esq.; Lady Judith, of Sir William Turnbull, of Earl Hampstead Park, in Berks, Bart., and Lady Jane, who died without issue. The Earl died in 1690, and was succeeded by his eldest son Henry, fifth Earl, who dying without issue, was succeeded in his estates in England by his two sisters, Ladies Mary and Judith; but the title devolved upon William Alexander, son of James, second son of David, son of Alexander, son of John, second son of Andrew, fourth Baron of Menstrie, uncle of Alexander, first Earl of Stirling.

Which William, sixth and present Earl of Stirling, was one of his majesty's counsel in, and surveyor-general of New Jersey, and married Sarah, daughter of Philip Livingston, Esq., by whom he has issue, two daughters, Ladies Mary, married to John, son and heir of Stralochy, and Catharine.

* Traditions in the Virginia family identify this John with their ancestor, who is thought to have been born about 1603, who entered University of Glasgow 1630, emigrated to Virginia 1636, and died 1677.

Titles. The Right Honorable William Alexander, Viscount and Earl of Stirling, Lord Alexander and Baronet.

Creations. Baronet of Nova Scotia, 21 May, 1623; Baron Alexander and Viscount Stirling in 1626, and Earl of Stirling, 14 June, 1633, all by Charles I.

Arms. Quarterly, 1st and 4th party per pale, pearl and diamond, a chevron and on base a crescent, all counterchanged; 2nd and 3rd, Topaz, a ship with the sails furled up, diamond between three cross crozlets fitchy, ruby; and over all, in surtout, the badge of a baronet of New Scotland, which is pearl on a saltire sapphire, the royal arms of Scotland, ensigned on the top with an imperial crown proper.

Crest. On a wreath, a bear sejant erect, proper.

Supporters. On the dexter side, an Indian man, with long hair, and a dart in his right hand, having a plain circle or rim of gold on his head beautified with a plume of seven feathers—topaz and sapphire; and round his waist a like circle of feathers. On the sinister, a mermaid with her comb and mirror, all proper.

Motto. Per mare per terras.

This account of the Stirling line, read in connection with the articles in the Encyclopædia Britannica on William Alexander, first Earl, Vol. I., p. 493, and on Scottish history, Vol. XXI., p. 490, outline the traditional descent of the Virginia Alexanders from King Robert Bruce as follows:

1. *King Robert Bruce*, father of
2. *Marjory*, wife of Walter, sixth Steward of Scotland, mother of
3. *King Robert II.*, the first of the royal line of Stuarts, father of
4. *Margaret*, wife of John, Lord of the Isles, mother of
5. *Alexander*, Lord of Lochaber, father of
6. *Alexander*, who obtained from the Argyle family a grant of the lands of Menstrie, in Stirlingshire, and settled there, has descendants assuming his Christian name as their surname, father of
7. *Thomas Alexander*, living in 1505, father of
8. *Andrew Alexander*, who married Katharine Graham, father of
9. *Alexander Alexander*, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Douglas. A charter from King James V., dated

Stirling, April 15, 1530, confirms the gift of Menstrie for the annual payment of 24 bbls. of corn, etc., father of

10. *Andrew Alexander*, succeeded (see Douglas Peerage), in 1544, father of

11. *Alexander Alexander*, who married Elizabeth Forbes, father of

12. William Alexander, the poet, and first Earl Stirling, born 1580, died 1640; married Janet Erskine, daughter of Sir William Erskine, parents of

13. *John Alexander*, the Stirps of the Virginia family.

John, Lord of the Isles, is said to have been son or remoter descendant of

Angus, died about 1282; second son of

Donald, son of

Ronald, son of

Effrica, wife of Somerled or Sorlet, of Argyle, founder of dynasty of Lord of the Isles, who was slain at Renfrew 1164, daughter of

Olave or *Olaus*, third son of

Godred Crovan, King of Dublin, of Mar, and of the Hebrides.

(See 11 Enc. Brit., 607.)

FAMILY ACCOUNT OF MRS. LUCY ANN PAGE, DEC'D, LATE OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

[This account is from Mrs. Page's manuscripts, kindly furnished me by her daughter, Mrs. Martha T. Vandergrift, of Gloucester county.]

(Continued from page 135.)

The Throckmortons were an ancient English family, spoken of in the reign of Henry the Eighth as the "ancient" family of Throckmorton, and were even connected with royalty. Mamma's father was Warner Throckmorton, of Church Hill, her grandmother a Miss Smith, of Shooter's Hill, and her great-grandmother a Miss Warner from Warner Hall; her mother was Miss Mary Langborn, her grandmother Langborn a Miss Smith from Shooter's Hill, Middlesex, and sister to her grandmother Throckmorton, and her great-grandmother a Miss Dandridge. The first settlement of the Throckmortons was, I have understood, at the Warehouse, from which their lands extended to the Cooke's; but on the marriage of my great-grandfather to Miss Smith, he